

DOCKING  
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

**ANNUAL REPORT**

of the

**Medical Officer of Health  
for the year 1951**

to which is appended the

Report of the

**SENIOR SANITARY INSPECTOR**

and **SURVEYOR**

and the

Report of the

**WATER SUPERINTENDENT**



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The Local Health Office,  
The Rectory,  
Church Street,  
Wells-next-the-Sea,  
Norfolk.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE  
YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1951.

INTRODUCTION

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Another busy year notable for two main factors. Firstly the extensive work completed under the Comprehensive District Water Supply Scheme and secondly, the enlargement of the Public Health Department staff to cover work under new legislation especially Food Hygiene and Rodent Control.

Numerous parishes now have a piped water supply and many more will have it by the end of 1952. This will relieve the difficult problem of unsatisfactory shallow wells but also gives rise to a new problem in the disposal of this water after its use in households. The new problem has not yet developed and time will show its trends. Sewerage has not altered and the Heacham Scheme is still under discussion.

During the year we lost the services of Mr. Llewelyn, and he was replaced by Mr. Button. The Sanitary Inspector's staff was further augmented by the appointment of Mr. Anderson. The results of this increased staff have already been noticed by the success of the Rodent Control Scheme.

The only major domestic difficulty has been in the Gelham Manor Estate where the saturation of the ground by surface water flooded the Cesspools and made the task of keeping them working almost impossible. The Council is still working on this problem.

I have the honour to be,  
Your obedient Servant,

J.C. JOHNSTON

Medical Officer of Health

To the Chairman and Members  
of the Docking R.D.C.

STAFF

Medical Officer of Health

J.C.JOHNSTON, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.

Senior Sanitary Inspector and Sanitary Surveyor

W.B.JENKINS, M.R.S.I., C.S.I.B.

Additional Sanitary Inspectors

D.BUTTON, (March 1951) C.S.I.B.

G.ANDERSON (April, 1951) C.S.I.B.

Part-time Clerk

MISS .PULL

Clerk to the Medical Officer of Health

MISS M.HEWITT

Waterworks Superintendent

J.R.DRYSDALE



PART 1

GENERAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

1. STAFF: During the year Mr.Llewellyn accepted another post and left the Council. Mr.Button and Mr.Anderson were appointed to the Sanitary Inspector's Staff.
2. INFECTIOUS AND CONTAGIOUS DISEASES:
  - (a) Poliomyelitis. Two cases were notified during the year.
  - (b) Sonne Dysentery. There was one isolated case at Heacham.
  - (c) Abortus Fever. The question of making Undulant Fever notifiable is still under consideration at a high level. I hope we will get a decision next year.
  - (d) Tuberculosis. There has been a slight increase here, but it is not significant.
3. CANCER: During the year the incidence of Deaths from Cancer was 37 as compared with 39 in 1950.
4. SEWERAGE: There is no change in the position here.
5. RE-HOUSING: The system referred to last year still holds, and has been very successful in so far as bulk lettings are concerned.
6. WATER:
  - (a) Piped Supply. See Waterworks Superintendent's Report.
  - (b) District Water Supply Scheme. See Waterworks Superintendent's Report.

There are now 16 parishes with a piped supply and hopes for more by the end of 1952. This represent a very great achievement on the part of the Council.
7. MILK & DAIRIES REGULATIONS: One Order was served restricting the milk supply unless pasteurised.
8. FACTORIES ACT: During the year 98 inspections were made and 11 defects were found.
9. SHELLFISH: No change this year.
10. ACCIDENTS IN THE HOME: The Voluntary Home Safety Committee continues to arrange Lectures in the District. The Poisonous Berry Strip has been used in a large number of Schools.

A new innovation was a stand at the Royal Norfolk Agricultural Association Annual Show at Keswick. This exhibit was viewed by over 300 people.

11. PUERPERAL PYREXIA REGULATIONS, 1951: New Regulations came into force on the 1st August, 1951. These are aimed at bringing the definition of the disease into line with modern chemotherapy. The Minister suggests the County Councils should carry out the investigations of notifications, as the Midwifery Service is under their control.
12. LEPROSY REGULATIONS, 1951: These came into force and require General Practitioners to notify the Ministry direct the first time the Medical Officer of Health has been bye-passed on notifications and a dangerous precedent.
13. FOOD HYGIENE: The Sanitary Inspector's Staff are quietly raising the general standard of Hygiene in shops and restaurants.
14. NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT: No cases were taken under this Act.
15. CONCLUSION: I would like to express my appreciation of the support given me by the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee, the constant sound advice and co-operation of the Clerk and the continued support and loyalty of the Senior Sanitary Inspector, Waterworks Superintendent and Staff of the Public Health Department.

## PART II.

### (General Medical Information)

There is no change from the information given in the Annual Report for the Year 1950.



## (Medical Statistics)

TABLE 1 GENERAL STATISTICS

Area (in acres) ... ..	87,386
Estimated Resident Population ..	17,450
Rateable Value ... ..	£65,975
Sum Represented by a Penny Rate ...	£266

TABLE 2 LIVE BIRTHS.

	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate ... ..	123	153	276
Illegitimate ... ..	9	3	12

	132	156	288
--	-----	-----	-----

Live Birth Rate per 1,000 of Estimated Resident Population ... ..	15.87
--	-------

TABLE 3 STILL BIRTHS.

	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate ... ..	4	1	5
Illegitimate ... ..	-	-	-
Total ... ..	4	1	5

Still Birth Rate per 1,000 of Estimated Resident Population ... ..	.28
---	-----

TABLE 4 DEATHS (ALL AGES)

Males	Females	Total
128	127	255

Crude Death Rate per 1,000 of Estimated Resident Population ... ..	10.46
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TABLE 5 INFANT MORTALITY (DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR)

	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate ... ..	7	4	11
Illegitimate .. ...	-	-	-
	7	4	11

Infant Mortality per 1,000 live births ... ..	36.79
---	-------

TABLE 6 CAUSE OF DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR

Cause of Death	Males	Females	Total
23. Pneumonia	1	1	2
24. Bronchitis	2	-	2
21. Other Circulatory Disease	2	1	3
30. Pregnancy, Childbirth abortion	2	2	4
	7	4	11

TABLE 7 CAUSE OF TOTAL DEATHS

	Males	Females	Total
1. Tuberculosis respiratory	1	1	2
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases.	2	-	2
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	3	4	7
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	-	1	1
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	3	3
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	3	3
14. Other lymphatic and malignant neoplasms	11	12	23
16. Diabetes	1	2	3
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	19	13	32
18. Coronary disease, angina	23	15	38
19. Hypertension with heart disease	1	3	4
20. Other heart disease	17	20	37
21. Other circulatory disease	9	5	14
22. Influenza	3	10	13
23. Pneumonia	2	5	7
24. Bronchitis	4	6	10
25. Other diseases of respiratory system	-	1	1
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	2	1	3
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	1	-	1
28. Nephritis and Nephrosis	5	2	7
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	2	-	2
31. Congenital malformations	1	1	2
32. Other defined and ill defined diseases	16	15	31
33. Motor vehicle accidents	2	1	3
34. All other accidents	2	1	3
35. Suicide	1	2	3
Total ... ..	128	127	255

TABLE 8 DEATHS ACCORDING TO AGES.

	Males	Females	Total
UNDER 1 YEAR	7	4	11
1 and under 5	4	1	5
5 " " 10	1	-	1
10 " " 20	2	-	2
20 " " 30	-	1	1
30 " " 40	3	1	4
40 " " 50	5	-	5
50 " " 60	6	5	11
60 " " 70	25	25	50
70 " " 80	35	39	74
80 " " 90	37	43	80
90 " " 100	3	8	11
Total ... ..	128	127	255

TABLE 9 CANCER.

The following table shows the incidence of Cancer deaths during the past 5 years:-

	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951
Males	14	11	20	21	14
Females	16	15	20	18	23

TABLE 10. SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS.

	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951
Population	16,140	16,500	16,680	17,290	17,450
Live Births	339	291	263	299	288
Still Births	7	9	8	5	5
Deaths	197	198	226	209	255
Infant Mortality	13	5	7	11	11

TABLE 11. SUMMARY OF BIRTHS AND DEATHS RATES.

	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951
Live Births	21.0	17.7	15.76	17.29	15.87
Still Births	0.43	0.54	0.47	0.29	0.28
Crude Deaths	12.3	12.0	13.54	12.09	10.46
Infant Mortality	38.35	19.7	26.51	36.79	36.79

TABLE 12. BIRTH RATES, CIVILIAN DEATH RATES, ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY, MATERNAL MORTALITY AND CASE RATES FOR CERTAIN INFECTIOUS DISEASES IN THE YEAR 1951. PROVISIONAL FIGURES BASED ON QUARTERLY RETURNS.

	England and Wales	126 County Boroughs and Great Towns including London	148 Smaller Towns (Resident Populations 25,000 to 50,000 at 1931 Census).	Docking Rural District.
<u>BIRTHS.</u> Rates per 1,000 Population.				
Live	15.5	17.3	15.7	15.87
Still	0.36	0.45	0.38	0.28
<u>DEATHS.</u>				
All causes	12.5	13.4	12.5	10.46
Typhoid and Paratyphoid	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Whooping Cough	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.00
Diphtheria	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Tuberculosis	0.31	0.37	0.31	0.05
Influenza	0.38	0.36	0.38	0.28
Smallpox	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Acute Poliomyelitis (including Polio- encephalitis)	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.00
Pneumonia	0.61	0.65	0.63	0.85
<u>NOTIFICATIONS (CORRECTED).</u>				
Typhoid Fever	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Paratyphoid Fever	0.02	0.03	0.02	0.00
Meningococcal Infection	0.03	0.04	0.03	0.00
Scarlet Fever	1.11	1.20	1.20	0.05
Whooping Cough	3.87	3.62	4.00	0.18
Diphtheria	0.02	0.02	0.03	0.00
Erysipelas	0.14	0.15	0.12	0.00
Small Pox	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Measles	14.07	13.93	14.82	1.31
Pneumonia	0.99	1.04	0.96	0.51
Acute Poliomyelitis (including Polio- encephalitis)	.13	.12	.11	0.00
Paralytic	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.00
Non-Paralytic	0.02	0.02	0.03	0.00
Food Poisoning	0.13	0.15	0.08	0.00
<u>DEATHS.</u> Rates per 1,000 Live Births.				
All causes under 1 year of age	29.6 (a)	33.9	27.6	36.79
Enteritis and diarrhoea under 2 years of age	1.4	1.6	1.0	0.00
Rates per 1,000 Total (Live and Still Births)				
<u>NOTIFICATIONS (CORRECTED).</u>				
Puerperal fever and pyrexia	10.66	13.77	8.00	0.00

TABLE 13 INFECTIOUS DISEASES (ACCORDING TO AGE GROUP).

	UNDER												Total
	ONE	1-	2-	3-	4-	5-	10-	15-	20-	35-	45-	65-	
Scarlet Fever	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	1	-	-	-	6
Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	2
Pneumonia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	3	3	7
Dysentery	-	2	-	-	-	6	3	-	-	3	4	-	18
Meningococcal	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Infection	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Jaundice	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Gastro-Enteritis	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
	1	3	-	-	-	11	6	-	1	4	7	3	36

TABLE 14 MEASLES AND WHOOPING COUGH.

	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951
Measles	45	122	51	273	23
Whooping Cough	15	72	35	58	31
Total	60	194	86	331	54

TABLE 15 TUBERCULOSIS (DETAILS OF NEW CASES DURING 1951).

Age Period	Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	-	-	-	-
1	-	-	-	-
5	1	-	2	-
15	1	3	-	3
25	1	2	2	-
35	1	2	-	1
45	-	-	-	-
55	-	-	-	-
65	-	-	-	-
Over 65	-	-	1	-
Age unknown	1	3	-	-
<hr/>				
Total	5	10	5	4
<hr/>				
Totals	15		9	
<hr/>				
Grand Total	24			

TABLE 16 TUBERCULOSIS (NUMBER OF CASES ON T.B. REGISTER ENDED 1951)

	Males	Females	Total
Pulmonary	31	27	58
Non-Pulmonary	13	10	23
Total	44	37	81



TABLE 17 TUBERCULOSIS (DETAILS OF NEW CASES FOR LAST FIVE YEARS)

	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951
Pulmonary M	10	6	3	7	5
Pulmonary F	7	6	5	6	10
Non-Pulmonary M	1	1	4	4	5
Non-Pulmonary F	4	5	1	4	4
Total	22	18	15	21	24

TABLE 18 DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION SCHEME.

The following table shows the immunisation state of the children in the Local Health Office Area No.8., comprising of Docking and Walsingham R.D.C's and Wells and Hunstanton U.D.C's at December 31st, 1951:-

	Under School Age.	School Age.	Total.
Numbers Immunised	1,841	4,340	6,181
Estimated Population	3,780	6,065	9,845
Percentage Immunised	49%	72%	62%



## PART IV

### REPORT BY SENIOR SANITARY INSPECTOR

Mr.Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting for your consideration my Annual Report for the year ending 31st December, 1951.

1. INSPECTIONS: The numbers of inspections and visits made in connection with the various branches of Public Health work during the year are as follows:-

Housing, for repairs etc.	111
Housing, interviewing of applicants for Council Houses	76
Dairies and Milk Distributors	14
Factories and Workshops	98
Food premises for food inspection and Byelaw requirements etc.	156
Ice-Cream premises	14
Control of Moveable Dwellings	33
Infectious Disease inquiries	8
Premises fumigated after infectious disease	13
No. visits made during surveys under Pests Act 1949	1,108
Administration of Public Cleansing Schemes	636
For work coming within the purview of the Public Health Act such as drainage, water supplies, abatement of nuisances, etc.	429
Supervision etc. of public conveniences	107
Surveys of disposal of pail contents, Thornham and Burnham Norton	221
Miscellaneous visits	342
Total	3,366

2. NOTICES:

(a) Preliminary. The following preliminary notices were served requiring the provisions of the various Acts to be complied with:-

Housing Act, 1936	16
Public Health Act, 1936	27
Factories Act, 1937	2
Milk & Dairies Regulations	3
Pests Act, 1949	11

(b) Statutory. Two statutory notices were served, one under the Housing Act, 1936 and one under the Public Health Act, 1936, after preliminary notices and correspondence with the owners had failed to achieve results. Both were complied with.

(c) Nuisances and Complaints. During the year, the usual large number of complaints of various kinds was received by the Public Health Department. All but two, which necessitated statutory action being taken, were dealt with by interviews or other informal action.

3. HOUSING:

(a) Repairs. Although the supply of building labour and materials is now fairly satisfactory, it has this year, as in previous years, been difficult to get repairs carried out to houses.

The reluctance on the part of landlords to spend money in maintaining old property is, undoubtedly, due to the high cost of building repairs, and the fact that rents, which should cover the cost of repairs, and allow a margin of income, have remained at their pre-war level, and in a great many cases, barely cover the cost of maintenance of the property.

It is inevitable that this state of affairs will continue to exist until rents, and the cost of repairs, are more equitably related to each other.

(b) Demolition Orders. During the year, it was possible to get demolished 4 houses, 3 in North Creake and 1 in Syderstone, all of which has been the subject of demolition orders made prior to 1939.

(c) Closure of Unfit Houses. One cottage at South Creake was found to be in such a state of disrepair and dilapidation that it was considered to be unfit for habitation. The tenant was re-housed, and an undertaking not to re-let until the house was made fit was obtained from the owner.

(d) Housing Act, 1949 - Improvement Grants. One application for an improvement grant was received, but as it appeared that the premises could not be made to comply with the requirements of the Act, the application was refused.

(e) Letting of Council Houses. A number of reports were again prepared on the living conditions of applicants for Council houses for the Tenants Selection Sub-Committee. These reports did, I believe, continue to prove of value to the Committee in helping them to facilitate their difficult task of allocating Council houses.

4. FOOD INSPECTION: Visits were made to various food premises to inspect food suspected of being unsound, and quantities of various foodstuffs had to be condemned. Routine inspections were also made of food shops for the requirements of the Food & Drugs Act, 1938 and the Food Byelaws.

Although the adoption of these byelaws by the Council had been advertised, few of the tradespeople visited knew of their existence. However, it is hoped, by periodic visits to their premises, and by discussions with traders, to secure in time, in a spirit of good will and mutual confidence, the compliance with these byelaws, and thus progressively raise the standard of hygiene at these premises.

One drawback in the campaign for safe food is the absence of standards of cleanliness for foodstuffs or utensils. Although it would not be practicable for such standards to be applied to all foods, it is regrettable that standards for some foods at least, especially ice-cream and undesignated milk could not be introduced, and thus give Local Authorities scope for more positive action in this respect.

5. MILK AND DAIRIES: The supervision of milk production at dairy farms has, since 1949, been the responsibility of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. The supervision of the distribution of milk to consumers, and of dairies, is still the duty of Local Authorities, and the usual routine visits were made during the year. One successful court action was taken by the Council in respect of non-compliance by a dairyman with the Milk & Dairies Regulations, 1949.

A system for the laboratory examination of washed milk bottles was introduced. This has proved of considerable value as a check on methods of sterilisation by dairymen, as it is impossible by visual examination alone to determine that proper sterilisation of bottles has been carried out.

Most of the results of examination were consistently good, where unsatisfactory results were obtained, the dairyman was immediately notified and requested to improve his methods, and any advice considered to be necessary in this respect was readily given when inspections of the dairies were being made.

6. MOVEABLE DWELLINGS: Routine inspections were made of the 17 sites in the district licensed for the use of moveable dwellings. Conditions at some of them were found to be unsatisfactory owing to overcrowding of the caravans, and closets which were structurally defective and not properly cleaned.

The Council refused one application for a licence to use land at Holme as a site for moveable dwellings, on the grounds that its proximity to other dwelling houses would seriously detract from the amenities of the neighbourhood.



(a) Refuse Collection. The collection of house refuse was continued throughout the year, and fortnightly collections were given to every parish in the district, with the exception of Heacham, Ringstead, Burnham Market, Burnham Overy and Docking. In these parishes, a weekly service is given. Three lorries and nine men are used for this work, and a contractor is employed in Burnham Overy.

Disposal of refuse is, in all cases, by crude tipping, in pits situated in various parts of the district.

Some difficulty was experienced during the year in attempting to maintain the regular rota of collections, due to the inability to obtain casual labour to replace men who were ill or on holiday, and although some complaints were received, every effort was made to ensure that as good a service as possible was maintained during the difficult periods.

(b) Cesspool and Lavatory Pail Emptying. Regular emptyings of cesspools and lavatory pails were maintained in Heacham, Snettisham, Docking, Burnham Market, Burnham Overy and Ringstead. At the beginning of the year, cesspool and pail emptying was also started in South Creak, the pail emptying being done by a contractor.

In addition to these schemes, private cesspool emptying was, where possible, carried out in parishes without regular schemes, and Council houses cesspools in all parts of the district were dealt with when necessary.

This work was all carried out with a staff of 4 men, using two cesspool emptiers and one pail emptying machine, except in Ringstead, Burnham Overy and South Creak, where contractors are employed for pail emptying.

During the year there was no serious disruption of the service. Owing to the men agreeing to work some part of all Bank Holidays, lavatory pail emptying was carried out six mornings in every week throughout the year, and in this respect, I think it can be claimed that a very satisfactory service was given to the public.

Alterations were carried out by the Housing Department to some of the more troublesome cesspools at Gelham Manor, Dersingham, Ingolside, Snettisham and Bradmere Lane, Docking. This resulted in these cesspools going for much longer periods before needing emptying, and thereby relieving, to some degree, the pressure of work on the staff, and minimising nuisances and inconveniences which some of the tenants of these estates had been suffering.

The Council gave consideration to putting into operation Schemes for pail emptying in Thornham and Burnham Norton. Surveys of these parishes were made to ascertain the number of houses without sufficient ground for the disposal of pail contents, but no schemes were proceeded with.

8. SALVAGE: Although it was not incumbent upon Local Authorities to collect salvageable materials, the Council considered that the collection of waste paper would, in some small measure perhaps, benefit the national and local economy.

Steps were taken, chiefly by the distribution of handbills, to intensify collections. As a result, 51 tons 14 $\frac{3}{4}$  cwt of paper was collected, having a nett value of £348. 8s. 9d., half of which was paid to the Refuse Collectors as a salvage bonus.

9. SEWERAGE: Serious trouble occurred at Brancaster and Snettisham, where portions of old sewers had become so defective as to be unusable. At Brancaster 200 feet had to be renewed and house connections re-made etc., at a cost of £277. 11s. 9d., and in Snettisham, 400 feet at a cost of £210. 6s. 0d. half of which was paid by the County Council.

This is the first occasion, to my knowledge, on which any major expenditure has had to be incurred on the maintenance of these sewers, but in view of their age, and the conditions found when they were opened up, it is surprising that they have continued to function for so long, and given such little trouble.

In connection with the Heacham Sewerage Scheme, a report as to what would be the estimated cost was submitted by the Consulting Engineers, and after considering this, it was decided to proceed with the Scheme to the stage of receiving tenders for the works.

10. PUBLIC LAVATORY ACCOMMODATION: Public Lavatories at Heacham and Snettisham Beaches, which had been erected at the end of 1950, were opened to the public.

The provision of these conveniences by the Council, did undoubtedly, fill a need that had long been outstanding at these beaches.

At the end of the 23 weeks for which they were opened, the number of pennies that had been collected was 12,765, and from this, it can be assumed that they were used by approximately 20,000 persons.

11. WATER SUPPLIES: Twenty-nine samples of water were taken, 13 from private supplies, and 16 from the public supply.

Of the public supply samples, 14 were highly ~~unsatisfactory~~ satisfactory, 1 reasonably satisfactory and 1 suspicious. Six of the private supply samples were satisfactory, and 7 unsatisfactory.

The continued high proportion of unsatisfactory samples from private wells again accentuates the need for a supply of pure water in those parishes without a public supply, and it was gratifying to note, that owing to the good progress being made with the Council's new water scheme, the time was not far distant when the Council would be in a position to ensure, that with few exceptions, every household in the district could be provided with a wholesome supply of water.

12. DIRTY AND VERMINOUS PREMISES: Two houses were found to be dirty and infested with vermin. Informal action was taken against the occupiers to effect some improvement in the conditions, and in both cases, satisfactory results were achieved.

13. INFECTIOUS DISEASES: The main work under this heading consisted of inquiries in connection with cases of scarlet fever, poliomyelitis and dysentery and disinfection after removal to hospital of patients, or after the termination of the disease.

14. PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949: This Act came into operation in March, 1950, but it was not until 1951 that any action was taken by the Council to implement its provisions. The Act required Local Authorities to make a comprehensive inspection of their districts for the location of sources of rat and mouse infestation, and to enforce occupiers of land and premises to take all steps necessary to secure that their land etc. is kept free from rats and mice.

The main purpose of the Act was to make permanent provision for preventing loss of food by infestation.

A village-to-village survey was started in March, and in July two operators were appointed, and equipment for their use was obtained.

It was decided to give free treatments to private dwellings, and to make a charge for treating business premises. All refuse tips were to be treated 5 times a year if possible.



By the end of the year, 10 villages had been surveyed, 5 treated by the operators, and 25 complaints dealt with. A marked improvement in the infestation of refuse tips was noticed after they had received only two treatments. 79 business premises were inspected during the survey, and 15 were found to be infested and in need of treatment.

Dealing with infestation of agricultural land was a major problem, and as the onus for this is on the occupier of such land, it was considered that the best method of approach to the problem, would be by circularising all farmers, pointing out the purpose of the Act, and requesting their voluntary co-operation. This was followed, where possible, by personal interviews, and the response by the majority of persons interviewed was most encouraging.

Half the cost of all expenses incurred in work under the Act is reimbursed by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

By the action that has been summarised above, I believe the Council are carrying out their duties under the Act with reasonable satisfaction.

15. FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS: A fairly comprehensive survey was made of Factories and Workshops in the district, during which 98 premises were visited.

Conditions generally were fairly satisfactory, and it was necessary to serve only two notices for the remedying of defects.

16. CONCLUSION: I think that satisfaction can be felt in the sure, if not spectacular, progress made during the year, especially in connection with the campaign for clean food, work under the Pests Act, public lavatory accommodation and public cleansing.

Regarding the administration of the Food Byelaws and work of rodent control, it may be some time before the full results of this work will be manifest.

Mr. Llewellyn resigned from his position as Additional Sanitary Inspector early in the year, and Mr. Button and Mr. Anderson were appointed, and to them, and Miss Pull, part-time Clerk, I would like to pay my tribute to their able assistance in carrying out the work of the department.

I am,  
Your obedient Servant,

W.B.JENKINS

Waterworks Department,  
Bircham Road,  
Docking, King's Lynn.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I submit herewith for your consideration my Annual Report for the year ended 31st October, 1951:-

1. PUMPING COSTS ETC:

Source	<u>Water Consumption</u> Galls.	Galls per day
Fring Boreholes	30,090,000	82,438
Fring Boreholes via Booster to Docking Tower	9,057,000	24,813
Hunstanton U.D.C. (in bulk)	17,037,000	49,416

	<u>Pumping Costs and Electricity Consumed.</u>					
	Power Units.	Heat Units.	Total Cost.			Cost per 1,000 galls.
			£.	s.	d.	
Fring Main Station						
Boreholes	55,648	977	457.	1.	10.	3.64 d.
Fring Booster Station						
Docking Tower	10,302	512	87.	5.	6.	2.31 d.
Hunstanton U.D.C. (in Bulk)			418.	4.	2.	10. d.

2. MAIN WATER SUPPLY: With the recent completion of Stage 1 of the District Scheme, Mains Water is now available to some 16 parishes and the work of connecting supply to houses is proceeding satisfactorily although shortage of materials is holding up contractors.

Heacham continues to be supplied in bulk from Now Hunstanton U.D.C.

The lowest recorded level in the Fring Boreholes was in November, 1950, when it was 14 feet below floor level. The highest recorded level was in June, 1951, when it was one foot below floor level.

As a precaution against contamination, all mains water is chlorinated before passing into mains. Numerous samples were taken during the year and the Analyst's reports have all shewn that the water is of excellent quality.

3. MAINS EXTENSIONS ETC:

- (a) Mains extensions to the following Council Housing Estates have been completed during the year:-

Groveside, East Rudham	Approximately 135 yards.
Thornham	" 160 "
Fenside Estate, Heacham	" 270 "

(b) Numerous services have been undertaken to give mains supply to various dwellings as well as for trade purposes.

(c) The work of connecting Lord Cholmondley's 35 cottages on Houghton Estate was carried out by the Department's own staff who are also engaged on connecting all Council houses.

4. POST-WAR DEVELOPMENT: Sterilisation of the Reservoir and Water Tower has been carried out, both are now in commission.

Sterilisation of all mains on Stage 1. of the Scheme has been carried out in Sections by the Department, this is now completed and in use.

5. GENERAL:

Ferrules inserted in mains for domestic or trade	94
Fountains repaired or stand-pipes in lieu of	19
Tap washers fitted	340
Ball valves re-washed or repaired	130.

Due to the increase in the volume of work to be dealt with as the District Scheme nears completion, extra service staff has been engaged to cope with service connections, extensions, etc.

As the Clerk of Works on the District Scheme obtained another post, the Council agreed to Mr. Newman, my assistant, taking over District Scheme duties with the Resident Engineer and this has proved beneficial to my department as strict supervision has been necessary during trunk main laying and testing as the water required for this has had to be supplied from the old Tower at Docking.

In view of the greatly increased volume of work being dealt with and likely to continue, the Council have agreed to the re-organisation of the Department to enable smooth running of their water supply schemes and an efficient service to the Public maintained.

A satisfactory supply has been maintained throughout the year except in a few very exceptional circumstances due to bursts etc., which have been remedied with a minimum of inconvenience to the Public.

In conclusion I would like to express my thanks for the co-operation and assistance rendered to me by the Water Committee, the Clerk and Officers of the Council, all of whom have greatly assisted the carrying out of a very busy year for my department.

I am,  
Your obedient Servant,

J.R.DRYSDALE,

Waterworks Superintendent.

APPENDIX "A".

Public Health Laboratory,  
Isolation Hospital,  
Bowthorpe Road,  
Norwich.

WATER BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION REPORT.

Copy sent to           The M.O.H. Norfolk.

Authority or Sender     The Sanitary Inspector,  
                          Council Offices, Docking.

Lab. Ref. No.       P. 3450.

Nature of Sample       Water taken from bore - main piped supply  
                          Docking R.D.C.

                          Sample taken from tap - Snettisham  
                          (Crown Yard).

Date and hour of collection     17.12.51.   3.0 p.m.

Date and hour of arrival       18.12.51.

REPORT.

Date of Report 20th December, 1951.

Probable number of coliform bacilli,                   0 per 100 ml.  
MacConkey 2 days, 37° C.

This sample is highly satisfactory.

(signed) C. A. Siwell.



## APPENDIX "B".

Public Health Laboratory,  
Isolation Hospital,  
Bowthorpe Road,  
Norwich.

# WATER BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION REPORT.

Copy sent to                    The M.O.H.   Norfolk.

Authority or Sender      The Sanitary Inspector,  
Council Offices, Docking.

Lab. Ref. No. 0. 2359.

Nature of Sample	Water taken from bore - main piped supply, Hunstanton U.D.C.
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Sample taken from tap - Heacham mains.

Date and hour of collection 13.11.51. 4.0. p.m.

Date and hour of arrival 14.11.51.

## REPORT.

Date of Report. 16th November, 1951.

Probable number of coliform bacilli,  
MacConkey 2 days, 37° C.

0 per 100 ml.

This sample is highly satisfactory.

(signed) M.Dowsett.

Clarence House,  
6, Clarence Road,  
Norwich.

Cert.No. 913 C.

CERTIFICATE OF ANALYSIS OF WATER

Sample received from      Docking R.D.C.

Marked      Docking R.D.C. Public Supply, taken at "The Lifeboat"  
Inn, Thornham.      30.10.51.

Appearance when received:      Clear.

Reaction      Practically neutral.      pH 7.4

The results of Analysis are as under:-

	<u>Parts per million.</u>
Ammoniacal Nitrogen	0.01
Albuminoid Nitrogen	trace
Nitrate Nitrogen	9.2
Nitrite Nitrogen	Nil
Chlorine as chlorides	28.0
Oxygen absorbed (4 hr., 27° C.)	Nil
Hardness as CaCO <sub>3</sub> :	
Total	300 = 21° Clark
Carbonate (temporary)	190
Non-Carbonate (permanent)	110
Alkalinity as CaCO <sub>3</sub>	195
Free Carbon dioxide	6.6
Total solids	368
Metals in solution - Iron	0.02

BACTERIOLOGICAL RESULTS.

Number of colonies developing per ml. in 48 hours at 37° C.	1
Presumptive coliform organisms - probable number per 100 ml.	2
B.Coli.	Absent

This water is of excellent organic quality and the chemical analysis shows no sign whatever of pollution. Coliform organisms were present in small proportion in the water but were not of faecal origin. This is reasonably satisfactory, but in view of the fact that this is a public supply we think it would be advisable for a further bacteriological sample to be taken. The fitness of the water for drinking purposes, however, is not in doubt. The nitrate content of the water is well below the permissible limit of 20 parts per million for a water to be used in infant feeding, and this limit is itself conservative, so that no fears need be entertained on this score. The water is of moderate hardness and is safely on the alkaline side of neutrality, so that corrosive effects on metals need not be feared. The water is clear, and has a palatable taste, and is well adapted to the purposes of a public supply.

(signed) Eric C. Wood.

For LINCOLNE SUTTON AND WOOD.





